



U.S. Department of Justice

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July 27, 2005

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Donald C. Hynes

FORMER DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER SENTENCED

Donald C. Hynes, a former Detroit Police Department officer, was sentenced today to 220 months imprisonment by United States District Judge John Corbett O'Meara. Hynes was convicted in March 2005, following a trial, of Conspiracy to Distribute Five or More Kilograms of Cocaine, Distribution of Five or More Kilograms of Cocaine, Embezzlement of Property Under the Care, Custody and Control of the Detroit Police Department, Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, and False Declarations Before a Grand Jury. The offenses arose from Hynes's involvement in the theft and embezzlement of at least 101 kilograms of cocaine from the Detroit Police Department Evidence Room from approximately 1994 through 2000. At trial, the government was able to establish that Defendant Hynes conspired with a civilian employee, John Cole, to steal and then sell the cocaine. The evidence at trial showed that Hynes had access to the computer password of a Narcotics Division Lieutenant, which he used to change computer records of some cocaine stored in the Evidence Room, marking it as "to be destroyed," and lifting holds on it. A member of the conspiracy, who also was convicted in the case, provided investigators a plastic evidence bag with DPD case markings on it, and a firearm, all of which had been DPD seized evidence and all of which had been stolen from the

Evidence Room.

In addition to Defendant Hynes, seven other people were convicted as a result of the scheme. The charges against one person were dismissed. To date, eighteen properties, worth more than \$700,000, have been forfeited, as well as cash and automobiles.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy stated that "This case demonstrates our commitment to rooting out all public corruption, including by law enforcement officers, root and branch. With our partners in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Detroit Police Department, we will continue to aggressively pursue such cases."

Daniel D. Roberts, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, said "This case represents a continuation of the FBI's aggressive stance in pursuing public corruption matters as it is one of our top priorities. Additionally, we would like to thank the Detroit Police Department and the Internal Revenue Service for their professionalism and assistance during this investigation."

Maurice Aouate, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, said, "Even though the stolen cocaine was long gone, the financial trail remained, allowing investigators to link the illegal proceeds to the guilty parties."

Defendant Hynes has been in custody continuously since his conviction. Because parole has been abolished in the federal system, Hynes cannot receive early release from his sentence. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Sarah Resnick Cohen and Jonathan Tukel.